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First Named Inventor: COX, LARRY R.

Application No.: 10/702345

Group Art Unit: 2839

Filed: November 6, 2003

Examiner: Le, Thanh Tam T.

Title: ANCHOR FOR FIBER OPTIC CABLE


Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Date

Signed by: Melanie G. Gover

Interview Summary and Draft Amendment

The following are the Applicant's proposed Amended Claims based on the agreement of the Examiner and Applicant's attorney, during a telephone interview on or about February 5, 2005, to include the limitations of claim 8 in claim 1 and the limitations of claim 31 in claim 28.

1. (Proposed Amended Claim) An anchored fiber optic cable and housing assembly, comprising:

a fiber optic cable comprising a strength member and a jacket around said strength member, wherein said cable includes a first end and a second end;

an anchor mounted on said cable at said first end, said anchor including an inner sleeve and an outer sleeve, wherein said strength member includes a first end at said first end of said cable structurally engaged with said anchor, wherein said strength member extends from within said jacket at said first end of said cable, over said jacket towards said second end of said cable, between said jacket and said anchor outer sleeve; and

a housing, said housing comprising an anchor cavity and a cable inlet and an optical fiber outlet, said anchor cavity comprising a first shoulder and second shoulder for

engaging with said anchor, wherein said anchor is mounted in said housing cavity between said first shoulder and second shoulder and said cable extends through said cable inlet, and wherein said anchor cavity first shoulder is engaged with said anchor to prevent said anchor from exiting said housing through said cable inlet, and wherein said anchor cavity second shoulder is engaged with said anchor to prevent said anchor from exiting said housing through said optical fiber outlet.

28. (Proposed Amended Claim) A method of anchoring a fiber optic cable in a housing, wherein said cable comprises a strength member and a jacket around the strength member, and wherein said housing comprises an anchor cavity having a first shoulder and a second shoulder for engaging with an anchor, a cable inlet, and an optical fiber outlet, said method comprising the steps of:

placing an exposed portion of the strength member along the outside of the jacket from the first end of the cable extending toward a second end of the cable;

placing an anchor inner sleeve within the jacket at the first end of the cable;

placing an anchor outer sleeve over the jacket and thereby structurally engaging the strength member by compressive force between the anchor inner and outer sleeves,

wherein placing the anchor outer sleeve over the jacket also includes placing the anchor outer sleeve over the exposed portion of the strength member;

thereafter mounting the anchor in the cavity of the housing between said first shoulder and second shoulder such that the cable extends through the cable inlet of the housing, wherein the anchor cavity first shoulder is engaged with said anchor to prevent said anchor from exiting said housing through the cable inlet, and wherein said anchor cavity second shoulder is engaged with said anchor to prevent said anchor from exiting said housing through said optical fiber outlet.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

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